

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
FINANCIAL CONCERNS
OF THE
TOWN OF MELROSE,
From March, 8th, 1858, to March 16th, 1859,
AND THE
REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

BOSTON :
SAMUEL HARRIS, PRINTER.
1859.

**MELROSE TOWN OFFICERS,
For 1859.**

Town Clerk,
E. R. KNIGHTS.

Selectmen,
ELBRIDGE GARDNER, WM. J. FARNSWORTH,
GEO. M. FLETCHER.

Assessors,
JONATHAN COCHRAN, HENRY ROBINSON,
WM. E. FULLER.

School Committee,
E. O. PHINNEY, for 3 years, J. L. ANDREWS, for 2 years,
WM. H. MUNROE, for 1 year.

Treasurer and Collector,
CALEB HOWARD.

Highway Surveyors,
WILLIAM LYNDE, 2d, E. B. SOUTHWICK.

Constables,
N. R. ROBINSON, AI ROE,
LEONARD LYNDE.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Treasury Department.

Dr.

To Balance in Treasury, March 8, 1858, - - -	\$821 00
" Taxes uncollected for 1855-7, - - - - -	5314 09
" " committed for 1858, - - - - -	10,344 46
" Hired of Eli Upham, - - - - -	800 00
" " of Warren Emerson, - - - - -	1100 00
" Cash received of the Town of Malden, - -	103 60
" " " " " of Newburyport, -	10 75
" " " " " of Stoneham, -	41 60
" " " of State School Fund, - - -	103 45
" " " on Jonathan Hay's Note, - -	50 00
" " " for Cemetery Lots sold to Geo. F. Boardman, \$20—Warren Lynde, 20— David C. Bicknell, 40—Jefferson Burns, 40— Robert G. Gladstone, 10, - - - - -	130 00
" Cash received for Grass on Cemetery Grounds, -	51 25
	<u>\$18,870 20</u>

Cr. Treasury Department.

By Cash paid on Town Orders, - - - -	\$10,305 70
" " " for Interest on Town Debt, - - -	1607 86
" " " " on Shattuck's Order, -	7 23
" " " Discount at South Reading Bank, -	25 33
" " " on Aaron Green's Note, - - - -	300 00
" " " on Benj. Boardman's Note, - - -	30 00
" " " for County Tax, - - - - -	570 06
" " " for State Tax, - - - - -	327 24
" " " Roe & Southwick for building Howard Street, as per town vote, - - -	907 90
" Discount on Taxes paid before Oct. 1, 1858,	184 01
" Abatement of Taxes, - - - - -	43 65
" Taxes not collected for 1855, \$105 56	
" " " " for 1856, 169 90	
" " " " for 1857, 1001 65	
" " " " for 1858, 2195 80—	3472 91
" Balance of Cash in Treasury, March 16, 1859,	1088 31
	<u>\$18,870 20</u>

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Town Grant, - - - - -	\$1500 00
Orders drawn as follows :	
Joseph Holbrook, services as Assessor, \$70.13—Room Rent, 6.50—filling out and posting Warrants, 8.45—services at Town Meetings, 5.00—notify- ing Town Officers, 6.50—indicating land and bounds of land sold for Taxes in 1856, 3.75— sundries, 3.00,	103 33
Services as Committee on Drainage from Feb. 18, 1858, to Feb. 18, 1859, 8.00—services in Removing Dam twice, 2.00—services and travel to Charlestown twice, \$6.00,	16 00
N. R. Robinson, services as Constable, 4.00—posting Warrant, 2.00,	6 00
Jona. Cochran, services as Assessor, \$84.25—ser- vices in abating Taxes, \$6.00—do. as Town Clerk, 3.00—do. on Streets, &c., 24.00,	117 25
Geo. F. Boardman, services as Financial Committee for 1858,	10 00
Henry Robinson, services as Assessor,	51 00
Elbridge Gardner, services as Selectman, 8.00—sun- dry other services, 43.24,	51 24
E. O. Phinney, services as Financial Com. for 1858,	10 00
Nelson Cochran, services as Selectman, 8.00—work on Town Clock, 4.00—sundry other services, 32.25,	44 25
Ephraim Avery, services as Selectman, 3.75—sundry charges, 8.08	11 83
Wm. J. Farnsworth, services as Selectman, 4.00— do. on Streets, &c., 24.75—do. as Financial Committee for 1858, 10.00,	38 75
Caleb Howard, services as Treasurer, 25.00—do. for Collecting Taxes, 100.00—do. as Committee on Drainage, 25.00,	150 00
C. H. Shepard, services as Town Clerk, 8.00—record- ing 48 Deaths, 2.40—do. 16 Marriages, 1.60— do. 82 Births, 16.40—sundry charges, 4.38,	32 78
Materials and making small Pall for Bier, 5.25, do. for large, 44.75,	50 00
D. H. Walker, making new Bier,	13 00

E. Gardner, material and labor for covering Well on Vinton Street,	\$4 31
W. G. Shattuck, bill of School Furniture purchased March 21, 1857,	269 06
Nath. Howard, returning 43 Deaths,	4 30
M. Ellis & Co., putting in Dam at outlet of L Pond,	22 00
S. O. Dearborn, services as Committee on Drainage,	30 00
G. S. Phippin, Committee on Drainage, 5.00—Labor, 30.00—Interest on the above charges, 2.50,	37 50
Removing Dams and Obstructions, 6.00—time and expense to Charlestown twice, 6.00—do. to Boston and Cambridge, 2.75—do. to Boston, 2.66—Interest on the above charges, 1.00,	18 41
E. B. Southwick, Removing Dams, 5.00—time and expense to Charlestown two days, 5.00—sundry incidental charges, 10.11,	20 11
Clark Avery, material and work at the outlet of L Pond, removing Dam, &c.,	8 35
J. G. Brown, removing Dams, 5.89—cutting Ditch, .63—expense two days to Charlestown, 3.75,	10 27
E. F. Barron, removing Dams, 3.00—expense two days to Charlestown, 3.00	6 00
Orrin Brown, one day's Work on Drainage, 1.50—expense one day to Charlestown, 1.75,	3 25
Geo. A. Mansfield, expense paid to, for error in taxing and selling land of Locke as Israel Newhall's,	13 50
Laroy Brown, work on Drainage, .75—expense to Charlestown one day, 1.75,	2 50
G. P. Fuller, work on Drainage,	1 00
A. L. Cunningham, for damage to house from blasting rock on Vinton Street,	100 00
B. Linikin, Rent of Lyceum Hall one year, 50.00—Rent of do. six months, 50.00,	100 00
Kittredge Avery, injury to Horse on Main Street,	10 00
Samuel D. Taylor, injury to Carriage and Harness on Winthrop Street,	5 00
Moses Parker, care of Town Clock,	5 00
A. W. Haskell, Town Printing,	20 00
Samuel Harris, Town Printing, 2.00—do. 500 Financial Reports, 44.00,	46 00
Benj. Loring & Co., Assessors' Blank Book,	4 00
C. G. Loring, bill of Glass,	4 00
E. Gardner & Co., Lumber for Book-Case,	9 47
Clark Avery, making Book-Case, 14.00—posting Town Warrants, 2.00—sundries, 1.05,	17 05

E. A. Newton, cleaning Hearse Harness,	\$1 00
A. P. Lynde, Grading Willow Street,	14 25
Wm. Lynde, " " "	14 75
Geo. Lynde, " " "	33 50
C. A. Barrett, " " "	10 00
Chas. Boardman, " " "	11 33
W.J. Farnsworth, " " \$12, Lebanon do. .75,	12 75
Stephen Hyde, " " "	7 50
Jacob Goball, " " "	1 87
Chas. R. Train, bill for Counsel on Water Question,	35 00
A. V. Lynde, do do do.	35 00
	<hr/> \$1653 46

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Town Grant, - - - - -	\$3800 00
Received from the State School Fund, - -	103 45
Edward Stickney, one year's Salary,	\$800 00
Lydia C. Proctor, " "	250 00
Helen E. Adams, Teaching 33 weeks,	209 00
Christiana Upham, " 38 "	209 00
Mary J. McLaughlin, " 38 "	209 00
Kate E. Coburn, " 38 "	209 00
Phebe A. Norris, " 38 "	247 00
Louisa A. Norris, " 38 "	209 00
S. E. Batcheller, " 38 "	209 00
A. E. Ide, " 15 "	97 50
Mary A. Webster, " 21 "	115 50
Ada R. Poor, " 21 "	136 50
Florence J. Reed, " 9 "	49 50
Sarah E. Marble, " 7 "	38 50
Sarah F. Holmes, " 2 "	13 00
Henrietta M. Close, " 1 "	5 50—3007 00
A. J. Sessions, Superintendence of Schools, 25.00—	
services as Building Committee, 5.00—Incident-	
als, 5.11,	35 11
Wm. H. Munroe, Superintendence of Schools,	35 00
Moses Parker, Superintendence of Schools, 25.00—	
Incidentals, 1.25—services as Building Com-	
mittee, 5.00—Cash paid for sundries, 23.50,	54 75

Advertising for Teachers, 4.00—Webster's Dict. 4.67,	\$8 67
F. D. Howe, care of School Rooms, 178.00—cleaning, 6.50—splitting wood, 6.00—housing Coal, 2.75—two keys, .34,	193 59
John R. Wait, care of School Rooms, 37.50—Cash paid for cleaning, 3.22—sundries, 8.65,	49 37
Thomas N. Upham, care of School Rooms, 25.00—sawing wood, 1.50,	26 50
Mary Ware, bill of School Books furnished Scholars,	19 13
Geo. W. Wyman, care of Room, 25.00—cleaning funnel, 2.00—sundries, 3.53,	30 53
J. C. Littlefield, care of Rooms, 37.50—sundries, .87,	38 37
M. O. Riley, cleaning House,	5 63
Caleb Howard, bill of sundries,	19 95
Joseph Holbrook, Repairs,	2 00
S. S. Bugbee, bill of sundries,	3 78
J. W. Adams, bill of sundries,	93 03
Ellison & Robbins, bill of Masonry,	37 98
Charles McClenethan, moving furniture and labor,	33 89
E. Gardner & Co., Fuel for Schools,	202 48
Clark Avery, labor and materials,	13 11
Robinson & Fisher, Painting and Glazing,	8 98
Martin Ellis & Co., bill of sundries,	22 84
Wm. H. Morse, bill of Repairs,	60 51
Samuel Harris, Printing 500 Reports, and Notices,	16 50
Congregational Society, Rent of Vestry one quarter,	12 50
N. R. Robinson, moving furniture,	1 50
Nelson Cochran, sundry Repairs,	3 00
Benj. F. Abbott, Medical Services,	2 00
A. W. Haskell, Printing Notices of Examination,	2 00
Benj. Boardman, White-washing Rooms,	3 00
John Smith, sundries,	60
W. G. Shattuck, for School Furniture,	278 44
John Whowell, contract for Finishing Room, 240.00,	
Extras, 16.54,	256 54
S. Emery & L. Lynde, Finishing Room on Green St.,	254 00
E. Stickney, incidentals,	9 32
Sundry items of other persons,	1 25
Thomas McCoubry, Repairs,	3 12
S. S. Bugbee, articles furnished,	44
Geo. N. Noyes, services as School Committee,	12 00
Wm. H. Munroe, services as Building Committee,	5 00

\$4863 41

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Town Grant, - - - - - \$800 00

Orders drawn for the benefit of the following persons, and for the purposes indicated.

ICHABOD EARL—Fuel delivered by E. Gardner & Co.,
1.75—Supplies delivered by C. Howard, 18.32—
Goods delivered by C. Howard, 13.18, 33 25

JAMES GROVER—Goods delivered by A. Kilby, 10.14,
one pair of Shoes, .70—House Rent, 3.50—Pro-
visions, 4.56, 18 90

——— STEEBINS—Fuel del'd by E. Gardner & Co., 1 88

ABEL HANSON—Goods furnished by S. S. Bugbee,
4.00—Fuel, 1.12, 5 12

WM. SPRAGUE—Board by Peter Green, 52 weeks, 104 00

WILLARD EDWARDS' Family—Goods furnished by S.
S. Bugbee, 136.23—Fuel delivered by E. Gard-
ner & Co., 30.76—Provisions delivered by Wm.
Newhall, 42.05—Goods by Wm. E. Fuller,
7.89—Shoes by G. F. Boardman, 4.25—Shoes,
6.38—do. by E. Avery, 4.22—Rent to F. Hem-
menway, 33.00—Moving the Family, 2.50—
Coffin for child, by George Lynde, 2.50—Dry
Goods by C. H. Shepard, 6.14—Medical At-
tendance by M. Parker, 1.00, 276 92

JOHN WAIT—Goods furnished by Sam'l S. Bugbee,
56.68—one pair Shoes, .62—Fuel by E. Gard-
ner & Co., 11.00—Provisions, 30.31—Goods by
Wm. E. Fuller, 8.00—Shoes delivered by E.
Avery, 12.29—Dry Goods, 3.22—Fuel, 3.38—
Milk, 3.00—Med. Attendance by B. F. Abbott,
4.00—Medicine, 2.22, 134 72

MRS. PARKS—Goods furnished by Sam'l S. Bugbee,
1.77—Fuel, 1.75—Goods del'd by C. Howard,
3.99—Goods by Wm. E. Fuller, 2.51—Shoes
furnished by E. Avery, 1.29, 11 31

WM. EARLE*—Goods furnished by S. S. Bugbee, 2.19, Fuel, 10.00—Supplies delivered by C. Howard, 4.99—Provisions, 2.07—Shoes, by E. Avery, 1.50—Goods delivered by C. Howard, 1.95,	\$22 70
D. CROCKETT—Goods furnished by S. S. Bugbee, 7.17—Provisions, 1.57,	8 74
THEO. W. BEALS—Goods deliv'd by A. Kilby, 29.18— Fuel by E. Gardner & Co., 9.25—Goods by Wm. E. Fuller, 7.26—Provisions, 1.56,	47 25
DAVID MARSHALL—Goods furnished by S. S. Bugbee, 10.00—one Overcoat, 8.50—one Cloak, 4.75— Fuel, 18.00—Goods by Wm. E. Fuller, 12.46,	54 71
——— SIMPSON—Fuel deliv'd by E. Gardner & Co.	1 65
ELIAS E. ELLIOTT—Fuel delivered by E. Gardner & Co., 4.75—Goods delivered by C. Howard, 6.50,	11 25
NATH'L PRATT—Med. Attendance by E. O. Phinney,	12 00
F. F. CLARK—Fuel delivered by E. Gardner & Co., 7.38—Goods by C. Howard, 8.00,	15 38
Entertaining Travellers—Cash paid by E. Gardner, 14.67—Cash paid Mary Canuff, 2.25—Cash paid by Nelson Cochran, 2.00,	18 92
MARY DETEIFF—Supplies, .44—Nursing by Eliza C. Grover, 6.00—Medical Attendance, by M. Par- ker, 13.00—Medicine, .38,	19 82
ALBERT GROVER—for board in Malden Almshouse, 64.50—Clothing, 12.48,	76 98
GEORGE GREEN—Board in Malden Almshouse seven weeks, 15.75—Clothing, 16.37—Medical At- tendance by Wm. H. Richardson, 6.50,	38 62
CHAS. F. SLOCOMB—Board by Betsey W. Slocomb, 52 weeks, at 1.25 per week,	65 00
RALPH BARTER—Goods furnished by Wm. E. Fuller,	4 23
BENJ. WILDE's Family—Shoes furnished by J. Crock- er, 6.33—do. by E. Avery, 1.50—Washing, .70, Nursing, 1.00, paid by N. Cochran—Nursing and Boarding by Seth Rich two weeks, 10.00— Boarding four weeks, 10.00—Medical Attend- ance by M. Parker, 13.50—Goods furnished by Miss Ware, 1.29,	44 32
SAMUEL GREEN—Board by Sam'l Sprague 48 weeks, ending Feb. 14, 1859, 96.00—Rent by Mary Boardman, 3.12—Interring Mrs. S. Green, 4.00, Coffin, &c., 11.00,	114 12

* \$17.81 has been paid by the town of Southboro', into the hands of Dana & Cobb.

L. C. TOWNER—for removing to Newington, N. H., by Isaac Twombly,	\$12 07
“Crazy Irish Girl,” removing to Cambridge by Jos. Holbrook,	3 00
PARMELIA YOUNG—Coffin, Robe, &c., 9.50—Inter- ring, 5.00—Medical Service at Inquest, 2.00,	16 50
ELLEN HAVY—Interring, 4.25—Coffin and Robe, 10.75,	15 00
Washing paid to Mrs. Connell,	1 00
Goods delivered to the Poor, by C. H. Shepard, as per bill, 25.43—Sundries delivered by Wm. J. Farnsworth, 2.25,	27 68
Elbridge Gardner, services as Overseer of Poor,	16 00
Nelson Cochran, do. do. do.	8 00
Ephraim Avery, do. do. do.	6 00
Wm. J. Farnsworth, do. do. do.	10 25
	<u>\$1257 29</u>

STREETS.

HOWARD STREET.

Town Grant, - - - - -	\$500 00
N. R. Robinson, constructing Cart-way to S. Rich's house,	25 00
Nelson Cochran, work on,	25 75
Ai Roe and E. B. Southwick, building Street,	300 00
Geo. H. Fall, services as Referee,	25 00
Ai Roe and E. B. Southwick, cash paid by C. How- ard, as per vote of the town, for building Street,	907 90
	<u>\$1283 65</u>

WYOMING STREET.

No appropriation.	Orders drawn.
N. R. Robinson,	\$248 50

H I G H W A Y S .

Town Grant, - - - - - \$1000 00

Orders drawn as follows :

Wm. E. Fuller, supplies to E. B. Southwick,	1 27
E. B. Southwick, work on Highways,	198 11
Alvan Drake, " "	30 43
Jonas G. Brown, " "	31 62
Orrin Brown, " "	22 50
Laroy Brown, " "	1 25
Timothy Calahan, " "	68 31
Thomas McGiveney, " "	64 43
Ai Roe, " "	25 00
Thomas Lister, " "	42 87
Geo. P. Fuller, " "	13 37
M. Ellis & Co., " "	25 00
D. P. Emerson, " "	22 00
James Morrison, sharpening tools, &c.	5 75
John Simonds, " "	7 39
Otis Howard, work on Highways,	9 68
John Blake, " "	2 00
C. Locke, " "	2 00
Edward Heffren, " "	23 12
J. Geryhan, " "	1 25
Thomas Mahan, " "	28 00
Michael Fleming, " "	25 43
Pat. Brady, " "	15 12
Thomas Cornell, " "	13 25
Sam'l Woodward, " "	10 00
Michael Quinn, " "	3 12
E. Fuller, one cask Powder,	3 62
William Lynde, for labor on Highways,	564 80
Thomas McCoubry, Blacksmithing,	14 90
Jacob Goball, work on Highways,	1 88
Chas. Boardman, " "	5 89
Wm. E. Fuller, material for blasting rocks,	1 32
Ephraim Fuller, breaking paths,	75

\$1285 43

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No Appropriation.

N. R. Robinson, raising Engine House, 5.00—dig-	
ging Well, 10.00,	\$15 00
Wm. E. Fuller, Supplies,	3 10
Wm. O. Haskell, Settees,	25 50
Wm. Hall, Engine Fixtures,	12 10
Hunneman & Co., repairs of Engine,	13 52
E. A. Newton, 47 Badges, 11.75—repairs of hose, 2.00,	13 75
S. J. Phinney, work on Engine Hall,	6 85
do do material and labor,	2 75
Robinson & Fisher, Painting,	23 58
Shelton & Cheever, repairing hose,	11 38
F. D. Howe, care of Engine, 17.50—sundries, 4.75,	22 25
Ephraim Fuller, Express services,	11 39
J. W. Adams, sundries,	3 40
J. W. Washburn, two Lanterns,	5 05
E. Gardner & Co., Fuel,	8 70
Samuel Ellison, Masonry,	4 50
Thomas McCoubry, Repairs,	1 72
D. H. Walker, Repairs,	1 50
Wm. H. Earl, Repairs of Engine,	5 00
Wm. Newhall, cash paid for cleaning hall, 2.40—	
Record Book, 1.25,	3 65
S. S. Bugbee, Supplies, Nov. 6, 1858, 4.53—Dec. 1,	
12.84—Jan. 1, 1859, 14.58—Jan. 24, 20.58,	52 53
A. Kilby, Supplies, Nov. 30, 1858, 3.00—Jan. 24,	
1859, 10.35,	13 35
Thomas McCoubry, Repairs,	17
Wm. E. Fuller, one gross Matches,	35
Wood & Oakman, — quarts Milk,	87
C. Howard, 4 galls. Sperm Oil, 7.00—sundries, 1.63,	8 63
Edmund Davis, care of Engine from May, 1, 1857,	
to May 1, 1858,	30 00
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	\$300 59

INTEREST PAID.

Appropriation, - - - - -	\$1500 00
Cash paid Lowell Institute,	\$270 68
“ “ Henry Bancroft, .	402 00
“ “ Phebe Lynde,	33 00
“ “ Aaron Green,	66 00
“ “ Warren Emerson,	90 00
“ “ Joseph Lynde,	357 53
“ “ George Moore,	91 35
“ “ Mary McPharson,	180 00
“ “ Lydia Emerson,	9 60
“ “ Benj. Boardman,	7 20
“ “ Samuel Sprague,	6 00
“ “ Sally Dix,	88 50
Amount paid on Town Debt, ———	\$1607 86
Cash paid So. Reading Bank discount, \$25 33	
“ “ W. G. Shattuck, int't on order, 7 23—	32 56
	<u>\$1640 42</u>

CEMETERY.

No Appropriation.

The following have been the incidental Receipts and Expenditures:

Cash rec'd for lots sold to sundry persons, \$130 00	
“ “ for Grass “ “ “ 51 25—	\$181 25
Cash paid Nath'l Howard, bill of sundries, \$42 46	
“ “ Jona. Cochran, “ “ 4 00	
“ “ Geo. W. Fisher, for painting gates, 1 89	
“ “ A. W. Haskell, printing Rules, 1 25	
“ “ Jos. W. Ripley, for Binding, 1 50	
“ “ Walter Littlefield, making and acknowledging 31 Deeds of Lots, 15 50	
“ “ Copeland & Cleveland, for travel and advice about gates, 1 50—	68 10
Net proceeds,	<u>\$113 15</u>

TOWN OFFICERS.

Joseph Holbrook, services as Assessor, \$70.13—filling and posting warrants, 8.45—services at Town Meetings, 5.00—notifying Town Officers, 6.50—services as Committee on Drainage, 8.00,	\$90 08
N. R. Robinson, services as Constable, \$4.00—posting warrants, 2.00,	6 00
Jona. Cochran, services as Assessor, \$84.25—services abating Taxes, 6.00—do. Town Clerk, 3.00—do. on Streets, &c., 24.00,	117 25
Henry Robinson, services as Assessor,	51 00
Elbridge Gardner, services as Selectman, 8.00—sundry other services, 43.24,	51 24
Nelson Cochran, services as Selectman, \$8.00—sundry other services, 32.25,	40 25
Ephraim Avery, services as Selectman,	3 75
Wm. J. Farnsworth, services as Selectman, \$4.00—do. on Streets, &c., 24.75,	28 75
Caleb Howard, services as Treasurer, \$25.00—do. as Collector, 100.00—do. on Drainage, 25.00,	150 00
Charles H. Shepard, services as Town Clerk, 8.00—other service, 20.40,	28 40
Town service, exclusive of School Com. service,	<hr/> \$566 72

Estimated Value of Town Property.

Lot of land on Main and Essex streets,	\$3000 00
Cemetery,	11,000 00
Central School House,	3000 00
Vinton street School House,	2200 00
Green " " "	2200 00
Lynde " " "	2200 00
Upham " " "	1500 00
Highland " "	1500 00
Engine and Hearse House,	1000 00
Engine and Apparatus,	1200 00
Hearse and Harness,	100 00
Safe,	150 00
Library,	150 00
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	\$29,200 00



Demands against the Town on Interest.

Aaron Green's Note,	- - - - -	\$1200 00
Henry Bancroft's "	- - - - -	7200 00
Lydia Emerson's "	- - - - -	160 00
Phebe Lynde's "	- - - - -	550 00
Warren Emerson's "	- - - - -	1300 00
Susan J. Emerson's "	- - - - -	550 00
William Dix's "	- - - - -	1475 00
Joseph Lynde's "	- - - - -	5958 85
Lowell Institute "	- - - - -	3000 00
Mary McPharson's "	- - - - -	3000 00
George Moore's "	- - - - -	1500 00
Samuel Sprague's "	- - - - -	100 00
Mary Y. Sprague's "	- - - - -	100 00
Eli Upham's "	- - - - -	800 00
Benj. Boardman's "	- - - - -	110 00
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		\$27,003 85

Summary of Current Expenses and Receipts FOR 1858.

Contingent Expenses,	\$1653 46
Schools and Improvements,	4863 41
Poor Department,	1257 29
Interest on Debt, &c.,	1640 42
Highways,	1285 43
Howard and Wyoming Streets,	1531 15
Fire Department,	300 59—\$12,531 75
State and County Taxes,	\$897 30

The Resources of the past year have been :

Assessments for sundry appropriations,	\$9100 00
Cash received of Town of Malden,	103 60
“ “ “ of Newburyport,	10 75
“ “ “ of Stoneham,	41 60
“ “ from State School Fund,	103 45
“ “ payment of J. Hay's Note,	50 00
“ “ from net proceeds of sale of Cemetery Lots and Grass,	113 15—\$9522 55
* Excess of current Expenses above Receipts,	\$3009 20

* Notwithstanding the actual current Expenses of the past year exceed the current Receipts \$3009.20, the actual demands against the town are only \$1570 more than they were a year ago, the outstanding Taxes having been somewhat reduced within the past year.

REMARKS.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the actual expenses of the town have exceeded the appropriations \$3009.20. Were this the only instance of an outlay above the town appropriations, and occasioned by some extraordinary and unavoidable circumstance, not likely to recur, we might pass it by with no more than a casual notice; but when it is considered that this is a state of things recurring from year to year, the inquiry is very properly raised, "What measures can be adopted to correct or obviate this disastrous tendency in the finances of the town?" It is without doubt as true of corporate bodies as of individuals, that a careful and persistent economy is indispensably necessary to financial prosperity. In the present structure of society, economy *is* and ever *must be* a fundamental condition of pecuniary independence. And it should ever be borne in mind that this law cannot be safely disregarded either by States, lesser communities, or individuals.

A somewhat careful examination of the business transactions of the town during the past year, and a general acquaintance with the financial history of the town since its incorporation, have impressed the minds of the Committee with the following considerations:

1. The expense of new undertakings has usually been estimated too low, and the appropriations made upon such estimates have been too small for their completion. The estimate and appropriation for drainage is a forcible example of the ruinous tendency of this short-sighted policy. The influence of the representations usually made in our town meetings, in order to carry a favorite measure, are too well known to need a rehearsal in this place. A more careful consideration and thorough examination of every subject involving the pecuniary interest of the town to any considerable extent, are certainly demanded.

2. The general practice of overdrawing the appropriations, is another grave error, and not unfrequently the necessary consequence of the former evil. Appropriations the past year were made for six specific objects, amounting to \$9100; and in every department has the appropriation been overdrawn. Without including the expenditures on Wyoming street and in the Fire Department, the excess drawn from the treasury for these specific purposes, including about \$1000 for finishing and furnishing school rooms, amounts to the snug sum of \$2793.24; which is more than 30 per cent above the original town grant for these several objects. Might not a code of By-laws, one of which should forbid any and all overdrafts, except for those purposes unavoidably necessary, and specifically provided for by statute law, aid in the suppression of a practice already assuming the force of authority from yearly repetition?

3. From facts which have occurred during the past and former years, we feel authorized to recommend more discrimination, on the part of the executive officers of the town, in allowing claims of doubtful legality, and based on services rendered without due authority. Individuals may choose occasionally to get rid of an importunate claimant, by making large concessions to his exorbitant demands, and the rights of others remain unaffected; but for civic bodies to go beyond the provisions of the law, is to inaugurate a dangerous precedent. In legal processes, and in making contracts with outside parties, a trifling expense of labor or advice will often prove the truth of the maxim, that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure."

4. From some one or more causes, the expense of our Poor Department has increased since 1851 in a ratio about twice that of the population. During that year the whole expense was \$343.03. Our present Reports give \$1257.29 as the expenditure for 1858. Whether the present method of distributing to the necessities of the unfortunate, secures best the commendable objects of charity, is a question worthy the consideration of the economist. Without being able to determine whether our current method of supporting the poor is best, we leave it with the town to decide either to pursue the course hitherto observed, or adopt measures for their support in community.

5. The power of united effort is so well understood, that the proposition—*union is strength*—is universally acknowledged as an established axiom in the political ethics of men. The great enterprises of the world are begun, carried forward and completed in conformity with this general principle. This law is aptly illustrated in the story of the savage, who, with his fingers, easily broke in pieces the single arrows ; but which, when bound together, resisted the utmost efforts of his full strength.

If the errors into which we have, by general consent, fallen, are to be corrected, it must be by the united efforts of those whose power is equal to the task.

Both employers and employees should be willing, if they accept the public service, to do it for a fair consideration for such labor, and not make the trust confided in them by the public the occasion for the preferment of the greedy claims of avarice.

Nor is it enough that we all agree, in our preliminary calls for nomination of town officers, to make large demands for economy, retrenchment and reform, and thenceforth leaving the mirror upon which we had looked, straitway forget the comely form which we had delighted to behold.

In a word, from the first Monday of March, to the next succeeding first Monday of March, should every citizen take care that the public weal suffer no harm.

6. Were it necessary, we might, in order to enforce the importance of the foregoing suggestions, dilate upon the influence of a large Town Debt in disturbing the harmony of the citizens, in embarrassing those whose property consists of unproductive real estate, and checking the growth and general prosperity of the town. Large taxation must necessarily result from a large debt : and the inevitable tendency of large taxation, is to compel capital to seek more favored localities for its investment.

The idea advanced by some, that we may safely incur a debt, and leave its liquidation for future years, when the population will be multiplied and the burden thereby lessened, is, in the mind of your Committee an unsafe one ; unless we except those improvements made for the benefit of a future addition to the population. It is our impression, and we think it might be sustained by an investigation of facts, that the population of suburban towns

increases faster than the taxable property of such towns. If this be true, then we have the reason of the fact that the percentage of taxation is increasing. An increase of numbers, multiplies the wants of a community, and this multiplication of wants creates the necessity of a supply by way of taxation; and unless the taxable property increases with equal ratio, an increased percentage must be the consequence. And this seems to be the constant tendency when all the ordinary current expenses are regularly met.

It needs not therefore a very profound acquaintance with the laws of political economy, to foresee the insupportable burden which, in a few years, will oppress a town of moderate wealth, which is yearly contracting a debt for objects of present necessity only. The current expenses of each year should be fully met by those for whose present benefit they are incurred. A contrary policy will prove ruinous to the welfare of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

E. O. PHINNEY,
WM. J. FARNSWORTH,
GEO. F. BOARDMAN.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THE School Committee of Melrose respectfully present the following as their Annual Report :

On an article in a warrant for a town meeting, holden May 26th, 1858, "To see what action the town would take in reference to providing further and needful accommodations for the Public Schools," the town voted to refer it to the School Committee, with instructions to finish off the unfinished rooms in the Lynde street and Green street School-Houses, if necessary. This was done, at the cost to the town of the following sums :

Paid to Stephen Emery and L. Lynde, for finishing off upper room in the Green street School-House, and building stairs, as per contract, - - - -	\$254 00
Paid to John Whowell, for finishing off upper room in Lynde street School-House, and building stairs, as per contract, - - - - -	256 54
Paid to G. W. Shattuck for 105 single school desks, 280 70	280 70
28 ink wells, - - - - -	2 24
1 arm chair for teacher, - - - - -	4 00
6 chairs for committee, - - - - -	4 00
Paid Ellison & Robbins, for work on black boards, and materials, for Green street School-House, -	16 76
Paid Daniel Pratt & Sons, for two eight-day clocks, and oiling the same, - - - - -	12 50
Paid Allen & Noble, for 3 bells and 1 thermometer, -	3 00
School Books for Grammar school desk, - - - -	3 00
Paid Chas. McClenethan, for work in removing seats, putting down new ones, and stock furnished, -	33 89
Paid J. W. Adams, for stove pipe, screens, &c., -	43 87
Paid Wm. Morse, for screen, map rollers, &c., - -	8 50
Paid bills for teaming, washing, &c., - - - -	7 47
Paid Building Committee, - - - - -	15 00
Making,	\$945 47

This amount has been expended by your Committee in providing further needful accommodations for the Public Schools.

By the expense thus incurred, the town has obtained two beautiful and commodious school rooms. The furniture has been selected with careful reference to the wants of the pupils; it is durable as well as elegant, and will last with care for several years. Single desks, although of higher first cost than double ones, were purchased, as they give a seat to each pupil, for the care of which he is responsible, and contribute to the better discipline of the school.

Your Committee would recommend that a good Well be provided for each school-house, where there is none now, (this would be one at the Green street school-house, one at the Lynde street school-house, and one at the Upham street school-house,) provided they could be dug at a reasonable expense to the town. How this would be at the Upham street school-house, could not perhaps be determined but by trial, as there is a ledge in front, which may extend so far back as to render it impossible to obtain water in that locality, except at an expense altogether unwarrantable. The old well in the road near the Vinton street school-house, is now furnished with a platform at the town's expense, and might be furnished with an iron chain pump, like that at the Centre school-house, for a trifling expense. It is necessary that a good supply of pure water should be furnished to our children, and much complaint has been justly made by those living near our school-houses, of the trespassing of children on their premises to obtain water. In case of fire these wells might be of great service.

It would be desirable that our school-houses should be insured. The Committee of last year say in their report—"in the course of another year some of the school-houses will need painting." This necessity has been on the increase during the last year. All the school-houses in town, with the exception of the Upham street school-house, need repainting, as they are all more or less weather-beaten on the south and east sides; and it is poor economy to leave wood work exposed to the action of the weather, for the want of being properly protected by paint.

SCHOOLS.

In consequence of changes made during the present school year, our schools are now arranged as follows:—High School and Centre Primary, Vinton street 1st and 2d Primary, Lynde street Grammar and Primary, Green street Grammar and Primary, Upham street Mixed School, and Highland Primary.

In reference to these changes your Committee would say, they were rendered necessary by the new location of the school rooms, and the re-organizing of the schools attendant thereupon. It will be seen at once that the Primary scholars must be provided with suitable rooms in their immediate neighborhood, to secure a good attendance in all weathers, especially when not attended by older children. And this necessity was increased, by the *utter refusal* of parents to send their young children across the railroad to school.

It was found that there were 90 Primary scholars to be provided with school rooms west of the railroad. For these we had only the Vinton street school-house, giving us two full Primary schools, of 45 scholars each. In addition to these, 14 of the larger scholars have been sent to the 2d Primary from the Primary schools east of the railroad, making 104 in all belonging to the 1st and 2d Primary schools on Vinton street.

Both rooms of this building being required for the 1st and 2d Primaries, it was necessary to remove the 2d Grammar school, formerly kept in the upper room of the Vinton street school-house, to the upper room in the Lynde street school-house, the only place provided, which was done Sept. 6th, at the commencement of the fall term. This school room accommodates the district very well.

The schools formerly kept in the Engine house and the vestry of the Universalist church, were discontinued, and the pupils otherwise provided for.

It became necessary to establish a Primary school in the lower room of the Centre school-house, 55 Primary scholars being left in this district, after sending as many as we could to the Green street and Lynde street Primary schools. To accommodate these, the 1st Grammar school was removed to the new school room on Green street. This location may seem unhappy for a school ranking next to the High school,

pupils having to go from the Highland district on the north and west, and from west of the railroad to Stoneham line, on an east and west line drawn from the junction of Main and Essex streets; and this district gives fewer scholars to the Green street Grammar school than to the Lynde street. There are in the town of Melrose at least 86 scholars who should attend the Grammar schools, making it absolutely necessary that there should be two schools of this grade.

It seems to us that one of the three following things must be done:—Break up the grade of the schools as now established—provide another Grammar school room in a different location, or submit to things as they are for the present. As to breaking up the grading of schools, it would seem to your Committee to be one of the most unhappy movements that could be made, and would undo much that has been done for the advancement of our schools for the last five years. The committee of last year strongly urged, and forwarded as far as they were able, the grading which has been carried out this year in part, (for there still remain some scholars in the Upham street school who ought to be members of the Green street Grammar, and some in the Centre Primary who should be members of the Vinton street 2d Primary,) and the present Committee have satisfied themselves of its beneficial results thus far, especially as shown in the Vinton street school, where the effect has been most happy, giving new life and energy to both departments.

With regard to classifying schools, all can see that it would not be wise to introduce into our High school children of four years of age, to learn the alphabet, because the teacher could be better employed in instructing more advanced minds; neither would he wish to be embarrassed with the multiplicity of studies and classes required between a knowledge of the highest and lowest branches. This is the principle to be carried out in the grading of schools. It has been settled by the experience of the public schools in Boston, (second to none in the world,) that the more perfectly schools are graded, the greater is the efficiency of the teacher and the progress of the pupil. If we are to have good schools in Melrose, it seems to us that this idea must be carried out by teachers, committees and parents, as a settled principle of action, not to be yielded to by any trifling pressure of circumstances. If we have taken right views of this matter, we wish the cordial support of the friends of education in this community.

We do not at present need any more school room than we now have, neither does it seem desirable to change the location of the school-house on Gréen street. It seems therefore for the present that no better arrangement can be made than that which now exists.

In the organizing of schools of the same grade, scholars must be sent to the nearest school room. If, for instance, there are 86 scholars to be divided among two schools, when 43 scholars have been assigned to one school, 43 remain for the other, we cannot in justice to scholar or teacher, assign 66 to one school, and 20 to another, although it might be desired in some cases. To do strict justice to all, impartial rules must be laid down and observed. We must not be influenced by personal preferences.

Your Committee have been thus particular in stating the motives which have governed them, and their desires for the future, because they know that in some instances they have been unjustly blamed for bringing about circumstances over which they had no control ; and because they wish constant and rational progress in the schools under their supervision.

We wish to have only three grades of schools. The Primary, Grammar and High ; that the studies for each grade shall be defined in writing, so that each scholar may know exactly the requirements for the next higher grade ; and when these are fulfilled, and he has received the recommendation of his teacher and the superintending committee, he may be received into it. This will give a definite mark for each scholar to aim at, and stimulate his pride not to be left behind by his companions.

At the suggestion of your Committee, the principals of the High school and one of the Grammar schools, have recommended the following requirements of scholars for admission to the Grammar schools for this year :—In mental Arithmetic, well versed as far as Fractions ; thoroughly acquainted with the Multiplication and Division Tables, and be able to add and subtract quickly. In Geography, they should finish Colton's Primary. They should read easy reading without hesitancy, and spell common words fluently.

For admission to the High School—in written Arithmetic they should be well versed in Fractions, both Vulgar and Decimal, also *good* in Mental Arithmetic. In Geography, they should finish if possible, at any rate as far as Africa, in Colton and Fitch's. In Grammar, they should be well ac-

quainted with the text book, and be able to parse some. A good knowledge of reading, spelling and writing should be deemed essential.

Your Committee would give the following summary of the registers of the different schools in town, and add such remarks as may suggest themselves on their condition. This record will date from the re-organizing of the schools in September.

HIGHLAND PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Mary A. Webster.

Whole number days of school,	105
“ “ of scholars,	45
“ “ of attendances,	2479
“ “ of times tardy,	978
Average attendance,	27

This was after some ten scholars had been assigned to the Green street Grammar school. The attendances and the number of times tardy are as stated in the register—no scholar perfect in attendance, being either absent or tardy.

This school has been particularly unfortunate in the changing of teachers, and is now to receive a new one, as Miss Webster declines to serve further. There is need of much greater sympathy between parents and teachers, than has ever existed in this district. The school has retrograded within the last year. We are anxious to remedy this state of things, and would be happy to hear any suggestions from those interested, that may help to place this school in its proper position.

GREEN STREET PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Kate E. Coburn.

Whole number days of school,	190
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	44
“ “ of attendances,	1781
“ “ of times tardy,	139
Average attendance,	39

This school has been since its foundation a primary school, and has had in Miss Coburn a faithful teacher, one who has constantly and kindly advanced her scholars, combining in an uncommon degree mildness and firmness. The district has met with a great loss by her resignation.

GREEN STREET GRAMMAR.

Teacher—Miss A. R. Poor.

Whole number days of school,	105
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	32
“ “ of attendances,	1203
“ “ of times tardy,	75
Average attendance,	25

This school is doing very well. (Miss Poor came well recommended, and has not disappointed our expectations.) The order is excellent, and the progress satisfactory to a high degree, especially in arithmetic. We regret that any should have deprived their children of the advantages here afforded, by not sending them to the school to which they were assigned.

UPHAM STREET SCHOOL.

Teacher—Miss Christiana Upham.

Whole number days of school,	190
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	53
“ “ of attendances,	2333
“ “ of times tardy,	331
Average attendance,	34

Miss Upham has been the only permanent teacher connected with this school since its foundation, and has gained the confidence of your Committee, as a faithful and industrious teacher. The great drawback to the advancement of pupils here is its mixed grade, pupils remaining (as last year) who ought to be in the High and Grammar schools, and not progressing as they would when associated with those more advanced than themselves.

LYNDE STREET PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Sarah E. Batcheller.

Whole number days of school,	190
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	55
“ “ of attendances,	1988
“ “ of times tardy,	50
Average attendance,	38

The girls of this school deserve great credit for their punctuality this term. Out of nearly 500 attendances, there were only four instances of tardiness, and three of these were marked to one scholar, making the most perfect school in town in this respect, and this a Primary school. The average attendance is not large, but those who came at all, came in

season. We have here a good example of the beneficial results of *permanency* in teaching. The recitations were thorough and satisfactory in a high degree.

LYNDE STREET GRAMMAR.

Teacher—Miss Phebe A. Norris.

Whole number days of school,	190
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	44
“ “ of attendances,	1915
“ “ of times tardy,	96
Average attendance,	36

The average attendance in this school is very good, but we are sorry to see quite so much tardiness. One Miss is marked with 24 attendances, and 11 times tardy. The spirit of this school is excellent; the best of feeling exists between the teacher and the pupils, and an earnest desire for improvement is stamped on every face. With such a condition of things, we look with pleasure for future progress, if the health of the present teacher will allow her to continue her labors.

VINTON STREET FIRST PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Mary J. McLaughlin.

Whole number days of school,	105
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	52
“ “ of attendances,	3402
“ “ of times tardy,	62
Average attendance,	33

We have in this school more scholars under five years of age, than in any other in town, there being eight. The pupils for the most part are progressing finely, and so far as we have heard, the labors of the teacher are well appreciated by the parents in this district.

VINTON STREET SECOND PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Louise A. Norris.

Whole number days of school,	105
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	52
“ “ of attendances,	2155
“ “ of times tardy,	60
Average attendance,	41

This school is composed of pupils between the ages of 8 and 15. At the commencement of the September term, a classification was made of all the scholars who would attend these schools, (103 in number,) according to their ages and scholarship, the older scholars being assigned to Miss Norris.

This change has been productive of the happiest effects in both departments. All the scholars are now in a few well-arranged classes, and are progressing rapidly in their studies. The teacher has a peculiar faculty of subduing unruly boys, which she has had occasion to test in several instances with the best success.

CENTRE PRIMARY.

Teacher—Miss Helen E. Adams.

Whole number days of school,	105
“ “ of scholars, (winter term,)	55
“ “ of attendances,	1852
“ “ of times tardy,	72
Average attendance,	39

The girls of this school deserve credit for being punctual in their attendance, having but 13 marks for tardiness, to 783 attendances, 6 of these belonging to one girl. The boys have 59 tardy marks to 1067 attendances, 16 of these belonging to two boys in one family, leaving a very clean record for a Primary school in the winter. This school is well located for the accommodation of the district, and is improving in the order and intelligence of its pupils, under a kind and faithful teacher. Some three or four of the older girls would be vastly benefited by a removal to a more advanced school, as was suggested last year; and it will be a good time to do this at the beginning of the school year.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Teachers—Mr. Edward Stickney, and Miss Lydia C. Proctor.

General summary for the year.

Whole number of schools days in the year,	208
Different scholars during the year,	78
Average number “ “	$62\frac{1}{4}$
Average attendance “ “	$54\frac{1}{10}$
Per cent,	$86\frac{8}{10}$
Whole number of attendances should have been,	12,795
There have been	11,117
Leaving 1678 absences, or one-seventh the attendance,	
Tardinesses, 776, or one-sixteenth the attendance.	

We can give our heartfelt praise to the teachers of this school, for their earnest endeavors to advance their pupils. We believe that they have not rested with the mere duties required of them, but have sought to know the wants of those committed to their care, and to meet them. The class of young ladies in Latin, consisting of Misses Adams, Eastman and Kimball, deserve particular notice for the correctness of

their recitations, and their perseverance in completing the twelve books of Virgil. They have done honor to themselves and their teacher, and deserve this public commendation. We were sorry to see no masters in the class with them. There is no better way to acquire a knowledge of our own language, than by the study of the Latin and Greek languages. We hope to see a large class of boys and girls in Latin next term. And we hope some of the masters will now start on a collegiate course, or at least fit themselves for college, which they can well do in the four or five years which some of them spend in this school. We think with your former committee, that there is too much haste to withdraw children from this school, at the very time when they most need its influences.

The recitations in Algebra were clear, showing a definite knowledge of the principles involved in that science. The first class have finished the text book. Class in History excellent and thorough in their recitations. Writing good. Of the Maps exhibited, some were very beautifully and accurately drawn. We would recommend the drawing of Maps to the schools generally, as a most improving exercise, cultivating the tastes of the pupils, rendering them accurate in the use of the pen and pencil, and imparting knowledge of the most definite kind.—The class in Natural Philosophy would be greatly aided in their studies, by a suitable apparatus for the illustration of the principles of that science. We hope some means will be taken to procure one; a part may be purchased this year, and more in the future, as may be needed. A liberal but judicious generosity is the best economy, certainly in a school of this grade.

Our schools are not faultless; and how we shall correct their faults and favor their progress, is a momentous question—one in which not we alone are concerned, but our common country, to whose glory or dishonor our children will soon contribute. A bad scholar is not apt to make a good citizen. We would earnestly invite all parents to visit our schools frequently, to sympathize with their children and teachers in their arduous duties, (the smile of a mother has been the making of many a man,) make themselves acquainted with the standing and progress of their own children in school and at home, and show to them that an interest is taken in them, by those they respect and love. Co-operate with your Committee, whose first and only wish is to promote the best interests of your schools, and one step at least will have been taken in the right direction.

PUPILS.

According to the report of the Assessors, there were 436 children between the ages of 5 and 15, (the school age,) in Melrose, the 1st of May, 1858; being a decrease from the previous year of 55. In addition to these, there are on the school registers 29 children over 15, and 21 under 5.

Our attention has been directed by the teachers to the subject of *tardiness*. Your committee of last year think that a mere mention of the subject would remedy the evil; but it has not done so, and we would again ask the attention of parents to this subject. A perusal of the tables prepared, will show the extent of the evil. In one district there were nearly 1000 tardinesses to a little over 2000 attendances, and this in one of the most compact districts in town, one scholar being present 96 times and tardy 46 times; another, present 87 times and tardy 42 times; others standing as follows—78 to 35, 75 to 35, 78 to 36, 102 to 38. It is not pleasant to dwell on these things, but it is a duty to do so. How shall this evil be remedied? By each scholar coming to school ten minutes before school begins, taking his seat, and behaving quietly! Will parents assist their children to do this, and then a great source of annoyance to teachers will cease. A good town clock would also help to remedy this evil.

In our high school, as reported by the principal, the proportion of the absences to the attendances are as one to seven; and this from a school whose instructions are supposed to be of more value than any other in town. Cannot this be remedied? No scholar should lose the advantages of school for a single day, unless from unavoidable necessity, and then, if possible, the studies should be made up at home, on the advance, as it cannot be well done on the review. Teachers should look carefully to these back lessons, and not retard a class to favor them. If they do so, the evil will be continued. In many studies, particularly Arithmetic, Algebra, Latin and English Grammar, and Natural Philosophy, the first principles are so connected with those that follow, that no definite knowledge can be gained where they are omitted or imperfectly learned. Studies are hated, because not understood; rank in school is lost, and not unfrequently the whole life influenced for the worse, by an irregular attendance in the commencement of a boy's school career. The evil, for the most part, exists in a few families.

TEACHERS.

The teachers have been advertised for, and have been selected after a careful examination of their qualifications and references. As a body, they have been faithful to the important trusts committed to their charge.

The wages of the teachers have been, for High School,

Principal, per year, \$800 00

Assistant, " " 250 00

Principal Grammar Schools, 6 50 per week.

" Primary " 5 50 " "

We hope that an advance will still be made on the wages of our female teachers, both to the assistant in the High school, and the teachers in the Primary schools. No class of teachers work as hard for the money paid them, as those in our Primary schools. After board is deducted, the pittance remaining is scanty enough, for one well qualified for the station. We do not yet pay as much as Saugus, Stoneham or Malden.

SCHOOL FUND.—We would recommend that the School Fund should consist of money appropriated only for the following purposes, as returned in the Report to the Secretary of State—Wages of Teachers—Fuel for Schools—Care of Fires and School Rooms. All other expenses to be charged to a School Contingent, or the General Contingent Fund. This would save a good deal of inconvenience to the school committee, and would enable them at once to determine the length of schools without exceeding the appropriations.

The appropriations needed for the present year, for 40 weeks schooling, at the present rate of wages for teachers, would be,

Principal for High School, \$800 00

Assistant for " " 250 00

Two teachers in Grammar Schools, 520 00

Seven teachers in Primary " 1540 00

Fuel, about 200 00

Care of fires and school rooms, 283 00

\$3593 00

Respectfully submitted by the School Committee,

MOSES PARKER,
WM. H. MUNROE,
GEO. N. NOYES.